# William W. Jacques House – 29-31 Elmwood Street

# 1. Name of Property

a. Historic Name: William W. Jacques House

b. Common Name: None

#### 2. Location

a. *Street Address:* 29-31 Elmwood Streetb. *Zip Code:* Newton Corner, 02458

c. *Assessor's #:* 71-034-0009

## 3. Classification

a. Ownership of Property: privateb. Type of Property: residence

c. *National Register Status:* MHC determination of NR IND eligibility; listed as part of the Farlow and Kenrick Parks National Register District

#### 4. Function or Use

- a. *Historic Functions:* Built between 1880 and 1886 as a single family residence, this structure has always served as a buffer between the industrial uses surrounding the railroad, and later the Turnpike, and the primarily residential neighborhood to the south. For most of its history, the property has primarily been used either as a single or multi unit dwelling rental property. In the mid-twentieth century, the house was gradually converted to office space for a number of years before returning to residential use.
- b. *Current Functions:* Always on the fringe of the residential neighborhood, Elmwood Street now stands as the boundary between the residences of the Farlow and Kenrick Parks neighborhood and the high traffic entrance to the Massachusetts Turnpike. While many of the properties which originally surrounded it have now disappeared, 29 Elmwood Street continued to be a two family residence into the mid 1990s. The property has recently been purchased by a corporation, which plans to redevelop the site, and is currently vacant.

#### 5. Zoning

The Zoning District is Multi Residence 1 which requires a minimum 10,000 square foot lot for single or two-family use, a minimum of 5,000 square feet per unit, and a minimum frontage of 80 feet. Single and two family dwellings are allowable by right; attached dwellings are only allowed by special permit.

# 6. Description

a. Neighborhood Description: The property is located near the center of Newton Corner and on the boundary line between the residential and business sectors of the area. As part of the northern edge of the Farlow and Kenrick National Register District, the property is typical of this residential neighborhood which is comprised of mid and late nineteenth century residences varying in design from Greek and Colonial Revivals to Mansard roofed cottages. The neighborhood is also dotted with several churches, schools, and parks of the same era. While the neighborhood is largely architecturally intact, one of the exceptions to this is the house directly next door at 23 Elmwood Street, where the original nineteenth century house has been replaced by a standard 1970s duplex.

To the north of the property lies the entrance to the Massachusetts Turnpike – a high volume traffic area which cuts a swath through the original Newton Corner village. Several streets immediately surrounding this property disappeared with the construction of the Pike, one of which can be seen disappearing into the landscaping at the left corner of the yard. Another example of this lies immediately to the left of this property, where Elmwood Street now dead ends into the parking lot of the neighboring four story office building.

# b. Architectural Description:

#### (1) *Materials*:

Foundation: Brick (originally fieldstone)

Walls: Wood clapboard Roof: Asphalt Shingle

*Windows*: Twelve over one, six over one, and six over six sash windows throughout house; one over one replacement windows in front bay

*Ornamentation:* Vernacular with Colonial Revival and Queen Anne elements

*Vegetation:* The vegetation surrounding the house is largely in keeping with the residential character of the neighborhood. Trees and dense vegetation across the rear of the lot and portions of the side screen the property from the traffic entering the Turnpike. While there are a few plantings along the sides of the house, and a large bush and two trees in the front yard, the majority of the property is open lawn. An asphalt walkway and two asphalt driveways/parking areas complete the landscaping of the lot.

### (2) Verbal Description:

Historical appearance: 29-31 Elmwood Street is a classic example of late nineteenth century vernacular construction which exhibits the practice of distilling the major architectural features of popular styles into a simplified version of the original. In this case, the house appears to be a simplified Colonial Revival structure with Queen Anne touches. The two-story structure has an asymmetrical box style footprint with a projecting ell to the rear of the house and a second square projection on the front left façade. The main bulk of the house is capped by a fairly steep hip roof with shallower hipped roofs on each of the projecting bays. Interestingly, while the rear ell appears from all evidence to be original to the house, its hip roof is lower than that of the central structure and appears to tuck in below the eaves of the main hip roof. The simple molding detail which wraps around the house just below the eaves jogs down to run around the rear ell, emphasizing the idea that the jogged roofline was an intentional original feature.

In keeping with the scaled down detailing of the structure, the building is sheathed in wood clapboards with flat, undecorated cornerboards. A vertical, flat board also wraps around the building, including the rear ell, between the first and second floor. A large brick chimney is located near the center of the roof and is distinguished by the decorative brickwork around the upper edge of the chimney and the three cylindrical clay flues sitting on top. A second, unadorned chimney is located in the rear ell of the building and probably served the original kitchen for the home.

Although the structure represents a simplified design, each façade of the building has its own embellishments. On the front (south) façade, the second floor windows are twelve over one sash windows which are slightly longer and larger than those found on the rest of the house. A one-story bay is centered on the front left projection and is one of the main architectural elements of the house. The bay is characterized by four long, narrow windows with dentil work and moldings under the eaves and raised panels centered below the windows. While the windows themselves have been replaced, the rest of the features appear to be in their original condition.

Another distinguishing element of the front façade is the entry porch which is tucked into the corner created by the front left projection. Despite later alterations, the original appearance of the porch is still apparent. The shed roofed area shares the same dentil work and moldings as the one-story bay, and the gable end of the roof is detailed to match. The entranceway is framed by a broad, flattened archway with chamfered edges which run down the post to the railings. The lower edges of the posts are also decorated with vertical banding. Later alterations include the right cornerpost, which at some point was replaced with an undecorated square post, and the railings, of which there is no information on their original form.

Within the open entrance porch are two doors leading to the units. The left hand door has a tall, detailed frame, the upper portion of which has been boarded over. The door itself appears to be unusually wide with a large, square pane of glass in its upper section, two horizontal raised panels in the center, and two vertical raised panels on the bottom. While there is no information as to whether or not the door is original, it is definitely an early addition to the house. The right hand door lacks the detailing and framing of the other door, and is probably the one added in 1978 to provide access to the second unit. While the building permit does not specify where the new entry was to be located, the standard six panel door currently in place suggests that this is a likely location.

The left (west) façade also contains some unusual architectural details. The windows here are a mix of six over one and six over six double hung sash windows with one twelve over one window in the upper right corner. In the rear corner of the main house, a one story, box shaped addition was added which mirrors the dentil work and molding seen on the front facade. The box bay's hip roof and six over one windows also match other elements in the house, and while it is not clear whether it is original to the house, it is clearly visible in area maps from as early as 1893. The other distinctive characteristic of this façade, which includes the box bay and rear addition, is the scalloped decorative trim attached under the sill of most of the windows. This unusual detail, which is not typical of either the Colonial Revival or Queen Anne influences of the rest of the house, wraps around the corner of the rear of the house and onto the rear addition, but is not found on any other façade. In the far back corner of the façade, a second entrance porch provides access to the rear ell. The simple wooden stoop lacks any architectural detailing and is probably a later replacement for the original entrance. The entry is partially shielded by a simple, lean-to style hood.

In contrast to the rest of the building, the right (east) façade and rear ell have very little real architectural detail. Both areas have six over six and six over one double hung sash windows with smaller six over six sash windows towards the rear of the building. A third entrance was cut into the center of this façade and is accessed by a simple wooden stoop which lacks any architectural detailing.

While no changes appear to have been made to the footprint of the structure since the early 1890s, if ever, minor changes such as new entrances and replacement features have gradually been made throughout the years. Aside from the new entrance to the second unit, none of these can be definitively dated. Two shed roofed dormers, one overlooking the left façade and one tucked into the corner of the front slope of the roof, are undocumented but appear to be later additions. The windows are difficult to view from the ground but are clearly different in size and configuration from those found in

the rest of the structure; the dormer itself lacks the detailing and hipped roof form seen throughout the rest of the house.

Probably the most interesting, and unusual, of these changes, though, is the fact that the foundation, which is now red brick, was originally fieldstone. A fieldstone base is visible around the edge of the entire foundation. Under the front entrance porch, around the front corners of the house, and on the left façade of the rear ell, the fieldstone foundation is either fully intact or only partially replaced.

Current appearance: Aside from the minor changes noted above, the house has retained its wood clapboard appearance, detailing, roof form, and most of its original windows, and can be considered to be architecturally intact. However, the property has been vacant for several years now and the lack of regular maintenance is beginning to harm the building's integrity. Clapboards are breaking loose from the left façade dormer and the central chimney appears to be leaning to the side. Openings in the foundation have been filled in with the exception of one in the rear, which was covered with a board and is now breaking lose. While simply repainting the house would significantly improve its neglected appearance, there may also be hidden structural issues which are not yet known but would need to be addressed. The lot itself appears to be maintained with the exception of the rear boundary, where the dense vegetation now makes it impossible to reach the rear of the house.

# 7. History of Property

a. *Deed History:* Book 1542, Page 112 holds the first mention of 29 Elmwood Street. On May 29, 1880, Francis T. Kimball purchased the lot from George Sawin, owner of the adjacent property to the east. The deed notes that the lot was carved out of a parcel of land which Annie Sawin, George's wife, received in 1868 from Elijah W. Wood. An 1874 map of the area explains that the subdivision cut the Sawin's original lot roughly in half, and shows that much of the neighborhood had already been established when this lot was created and developed.

Book 1772, Page 554 records the sale of the house by Francis T. Kimball to William Jacques in November of 1886, who is believed to have actually built the house now located on the property. However, there is no clear information as to why Jacques, and not Kimball, is attributed with building the house. While there is no evidence that Kimball himself ever lived on the property, there is also no clear record as to when the house was built or who built it. An 1886 map of the area shows the house in its current configuration and notes that William Jacques was already in residence. The close date between the sale and the record of William Jacques as the resident suggests that Kimball may have built the house and sold the lot as a developed site but it is not clear whether the house was built specifically for Jacques or simply as a development project.

Book 2000, Page 418 records that on September 30, 1890, William Jacques sold the property to Nathan Green of Boston. While it is clear that Jacques was in residence at 29 Elmwood Street through 1889, the sale agreement notes that the new owner was required to honor the existing lease on the property by T.O. Loveland, a Boston dentist.

Book 2000, Page 421 notes the immediate sale of the property by Nathan Green to Sarah E. Plumer, a New York widow. Also taking place on September 30, 1890, the deed record does not contain any information on why the land was transferred through Nathan Green. Sarah Plumer, though, appears to have used the property as a rental unit and there is no evidence that she ever actually lived either in Newton or at this address.

Book 2223, Page 274 registers the next transaction concerning the property on September 19, 1893. At this time, Sarah Plumer mortgaged the property to Anna W. Flint, wife of George Flint. Although the Flints were Newton residents, there is no record that they ever lived in the house, which had a series of tenants over the years. While there is a note in the records that the mortgage was extended once, it was apparently never fully paid off as is explained in the following deed.

Book 6029, Page 503 records the sale of the property by Walter A Kennedy of Boston, to Bridget Kelley, a Boston widow, on May 25, 1936. Walter Kennedy, though, did not purchase the property from Anna Flint. As mentioned before, the Flint's appear to have defaulted on their mortgage on the property sometime in the mid 1930s. By 1936, the mortgage was in the hands of a Percy Loring, who foreclosed on the property at that time. Loring sold the property at auction, where it was purchased by Walter Kennedy, who immediately sold the property to Bridget Kelley. Kelley also does not appear to have ever lived either in Newton or on the property, but did continue to own the property for a number of years. However, on the same day she purchased the property, she also mortgaged it to two individuals - the aforementioned Percy Loring and John J. Timmins of Newton. Local directories show that the Timmins family had been in residence at 29 Elmwood Street since 1934 but there is no listing for Loring at this address. While it is possible that the structure was already a two family home at this time, it is unclear whether Loring owned a unit in the building or co-owned the overall structure.

Book 6834, Page 38 notes that on February 6, 1945, Bridget Kelley officially sold the property to John J. Timmins and his wife, Margaret. The sale notes the two mortgages on the property, but does not note whether Loring had any further interest in the site. The first owners since the Jacques to actually live on the property, the Timmins family were in residence for a number of years before the property was again rented out.

Book 8046, Page 112 lists the next sale of the property on March 20, 1953, when Margaret Timmins, now a widow, sold the property to Cecil M. Leacy of

Watertown. Over time, Leacy became the owner of a number of Elmwood Street homes as well as the warehouse/garage on Brook Street just behind 29 Elmwood. Although the dimensions of the lot never changed from their original proportions, the lot was now tied in with the rest of the properties on that street. The use of the house also shifted from a rental property to office space for Leacy's various storage, moving, and real estate companies.

Book 10172 Page 568 notes the Massachusetts Turnpike Authorities partial taking of the lot for construction of the turnpike, its entrance ramp, and the rerouting of Centre Street on November 8, 1962. Only a potion of the rear of the lot appears to have been taken and the house itself was not impacted. However, Brook Street, which is listed on every record as the property's western boundary, disappeared at this time as did the western half of Elmwood Street and all the properties between the structure and the railway.

Book13373 Page 446 records the next sale of the property by Lucy Gurney, executrix for the will of Cecil M. Leacy of Newton, to Robert Cicchetti, Trustee, at 71 Oakdale Road, Newton, on December 30, 1977. Again, although the dimensions of the property were never altered, 29 Elmwood was now one of three Elmwood Street parcels which were sold as a package, the other two being 9 and 15 Elmwood Street. The sale notes that the land was subject to the MTA taking but does not give any further information on its use.

Book 14862 Page 138 registers the sale of the property on January 14, 1983 by Robert Cicchetti, Trustee, to Robert Q. Cicchetti, also of 71 Oakdale Road, Newton. All three parcels were sold at this time, and little additional information is available on the sale.

Book 28224 Page 506 states that on February 25, 1998, Robert Q. Cicchetti of Newton sold the property to Donald J. Buckley, Trustee of the Mooring Elmwood Nominee Trust. All three properties, 9,15, and 29 Elmwood Street, were again sold at this time. Here, though, the record becomes unclear. At some point after the sale of the property to Donald Buckley, the land was transferred to M&P Partners Limited Partnership of Newton but no actual record of this is available. What is available, though, is the October 5, 2001 transfer of the land from M&P Partners to M&P Partners II, LLC, a Delaware Company located at 400 Centre Street, which is adjacent to this site. At this time, no book or page reference is available as the transaction is too recent.

b. *Development History:* While occasionally owner-occupied, 29 Elmwood Street has primarily been used as an income producing property over the years. The Farlow and Kenrick Parks neighborhood was already well established when George Sawin of 23 Elmwood Street subdivided his lot to create what is now 29 Elmwood. Then located at the center of Elmwood Street and on the corner with Brook Street, the property was located near the edge of the neighborhood, about one block from the railway and its development, but still surrounded by residential lots and estates.

As noted earlier, the house is believed to have been built in the mid 1880s for William W. Jacques, a Boston electrician who is known to have lived in the house between 1886 and 1889. In 1890, Jacques moved down the street to 42 Eldridge Street and the property was leased to Timothy Otis Loveland, a local dentist and community activist. Although Jacques sold the property in 1890, the Lovelands remained in residence here through 1895. By 1897, though, the family was in residence down the street at 9 Elmwood Street and 29 Elmwood Street was temporarily vacant.

Throughout the 1890s, vacant lots in the area quickly disappeared. In the area immediately surrounding 29 Elmwood Street, several of these lots converted to commercial use, especially immediately surrounding the railroad and Washington Street. By 1899, 29 Elmwood Street was occupied by the family of Samuel Whitney, an inspector at the Post Office building in Boston, and by their boarder, Mrs. Mary E. Little. The Whitney's remained in the house through at least 1905. In 1909, though, Samuel Whitney died at the age of 61 and the remaining family appears to have left Newton at that time to move to Winthrop.

From 1911-1914, Mr. and Mrs. Gabriel Heller, a salesman, resided here and appear to have had a boarder, Mrs. Margaret Wilbur. By 1915, though, both residents had disappeared from Newton and the house was now occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Martin Kennery, a coachman at 294 Chestnut Street. The Kennerys, moved to West Newton by 1917, at which time the Pierce family took up residence here. Ralph Pierce, assistant secretary at Columbian National Life Insurance, his wife, and two sons remained in residence here through 1923. Both sons served in the Navy during WWI, married, and moved elsewhere in the City and by 1925, Mr. and Mrs. Pierce had moved on as well.

Following the Pierce family, the property was occupied by a number of boarders, none of whom stayed for more than two years. Mr. and Mrs. James Dick, a manager at 843 Washington Street; Miss Marion Barker, a phone operator; Mrs. Elizabeth Cotton; and Miss Jean R. MacInnes all lived at 29 Elmwood Street briefly and appear to have then left Newton. The house was vacant again in 1927. In 1931, the house was briefly occupied again by a family, Mr. and Mrs. George Moore and their two children. However, Mrs. Moore died the following year, after which the family appears to have left Newton.

Over the first half of the twentieth century, many of the residential properties immediately north of Elmwood Street began to be replaced by commercial sites. Immediately behind 29 Elmwood Street was the Newton Garage and Auto Company, as well as several storage facilities and garages. This close proximity to industry may explain why so few families remained in the house for any length of time in the early twentieth century. By 1932, the house was temporarily vacant again before the comparatively long-term residents, the Timmins, moved here. John J. Timmins, a custodian for the Bigelow School, and his wife would eventually own

the property but originally leased it from Anna Flint. Local directories list five other family members at this address either as students or as local workers, all of whom lived at this address through 1945. Upon purchasing the house in 1945, though, the family moved out. John J. Timmins and his wife moved across the neighborhood to Galen Street, but much of the rest of the family appears to have left the City by this time.

From 1947 through 1949, Norbert Reardon, a sales manager in Boston, and Mary, his wife, lived here before moving elsewhere in Newton. From 1951-55, it was the Whelan family from Watertown. From 1957-1963, the property had two to three new residents every two years, most of which were either local workers or widows. Only two of these, Francis Gibson, a Newton Postal worker, and Harold Scott, a restaurant manager, remained for more than two years.

By the early 1960s, plans were underway for the construction of the Massachusetts Turnpike and its entrance ramp in Newton Corner. All of the properties between Elmwood Street and the railroad were demolished at this time, as were the properties immediately west of 29 Elmwood Street. Whereas the property had once been at the center of Elmwood, it now marked the western end and Brook Street disappeared entirely. Such a dramatic change in landscape helps to explain the high vacancy rate in the area surrounding Elmwood Street in the early 1960s. Many of these properties were eventually purchased by Cecil Leacy, a Watertown businessman. In the case of 29 Elmwood Street, this marked a transition away from its former residential use. In 1964, Leacy began using the structure as offices for his local businesses. While one boarder, Harold Scott, continued to reside here through 1968, the rest of the structure housed offices for Cecil Leacy Real Estate and Auctions, Johnson and Keyes Furniture Movers, HM Leacy Movers, Newtonville Rug Washing Company, Newton Storage Warehouse Company, and the John McIntosh Coal Company – all of which were either owned by or associated with Cecil Leacy. Harold Scott moved out of the building in 1969, and in 1970, the house was temporarily listed as vacant again. For that matter, several other houses on the street were vacant as well. In 1972, Cecil Leacy had returned with only three of his companies - Newton Storage Warehouse, HM Leacy Movers, and Leacy Real Estate. In 1976, HM Leacy Movers moved their offices elsewhere. The other two businesses appear to have remained here through 1977, when the property was sold, but were in other facilities by 1980.

Throughout the 1980s, 29 Elmwood Street was again rented out as a single residence. From 1982-1990, Spencer Carney, a salesman for HM Leacy Movers, and his wife Ginger, a nurse, were in continuous residence. By 1991, though, the Carneys had moved on and little information is available on the properties uses or tenants since that time. In the late 1990s, the property was purchased by the company owning the office building at 400 Centre Street. While plans have been suggested to redevelop the site for use by the office complex, no such plans have been acted on as yet. The property has been vacant for the last several years and in November, 2000, a request was made to have it demolished. The structure is

currently under the one-year demolition delay by the Newton Historical Commission.

# 8. Significance of Property

- a. *Period of Significance* The period of significance for 29-31 Elmwood Street is 1886-1950. The period encompasses both its construction and its use as a residence within the Farlow and Kenrick Park neighborhood.
- b. *Historical Significance* Historically, the structure is important for its contribution to a neighborhood which has seen radical changes since its development in the mid-1800s. The structure has acted as an important boundary in the community between the well established residential neighborhood to its south and the increasingly industrial and urbanized sector to the north. Its use and development over time illustrates the changing needs of the area as the community moved into the twentieth century.
- c. Architectural Significance The building is architecturally significant as an example of the vernacular style of architecture which incorporated significant features of important designs of its period in a simplified form. The building has retained its original lot configuration and most of its defining architectural details with few significant additions or alterations.
- c. *Landmark Designation Criteria* The William W. Jacques House meets criteria for landmark designation as set forth in Section 22-93 of Newton's Ordinance T-288. The property is:
- Eligible for individual listing on the National Register of Historic Places
- Associated with the development of Newton Corner as a village and of the Farlow and Kenrick Parks neighborhood
- Historically and architecturally significant for its representation of vernacular building styles of the late nineteenth century and as an important reminder of how the neighborhood has evolved over time.
- Historic location and setting has been retained and is compatible with future preservation and use
- Representative of the original design retaining most of its original fabric and features

#### 9. Recommendations

a. *Preservation Recommendations* The property had previously been well maintained with repairs that were appropriate and which used compatible materials,

and the building has retained the style and appearance of its period of historic significance.

b. *Important Features* The defining features of this vernacular structure are the general size and massing of the structure and its high, steep hip roof. The Colonial Revival/Queen Anne style detailing seen around the eaves, bays, and entranceway are architecturally important elements which define the structure and its era. Its windows and wood clapboard siding are also important and defining features which should be retained.

# 10. Standards for Design Review

- a. *General Standards*. All projects affecting the property should be evaluated by considering the effect that proposed changes would have on the general design, arrangement, texture, material and color of the features involved and the relationship of such features to the surrounding area. In the case of additions, the appropriateness of size, shape and location of the additions is of critical concern. The Secretary of Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation should provide a baseline for review of changes to the landmark property.
- b. *Specific Standards* Specific design standards have been addressed in the existing maintenance of the property with regard to height, proportion of windows and doors, scale and architectural detail. The same principles should be applied in developing a design for changes and in reviewing proposed changes, such that the key features retain their prominence and continue to stand out as excellent examples of the nineteenth century vernacular and that the structure itself retains its identity as a nineteenth century vernacular style residence with Colonial Revival and Queen Anne influences. Thus the following specific design standards refer to potential changes to the existing structure:

#### Exterior Walls

- Wood clapboarding should be replaced in kind and painted.
- Decorative elements should be preserved and only replaced by like materials and design when absolutely necessary.
- No new openings should be allowed on the front façade or those sides visible from Elmwood Street.
- No existing openings should be filled in on the front façade or those sides visible from Elmwood Street with the possible exception of the second entrance added to the front façade and the side entrance on the right façade.

#### Windows

• Surviving historic windows should be retained and repaired if possible. If replacement is absolutely necessary, the replacements should match as closely as possible the original window in materials, style, and design.

#### Entrances/Doors

- The original front entrance and door design and arrangement should be retained.
- Replacement doors should be fabricated to match the style and materials of the originals and the construction period of the structure.

# Roof

• No changes should be made to the pitch or style of the roof

# 11. Notification

The following properties are considered abutters for the purposes of notification. Owners of these properties should receive notice when this property is considered for landmark designation and for any future under the Landmark Ordinance.

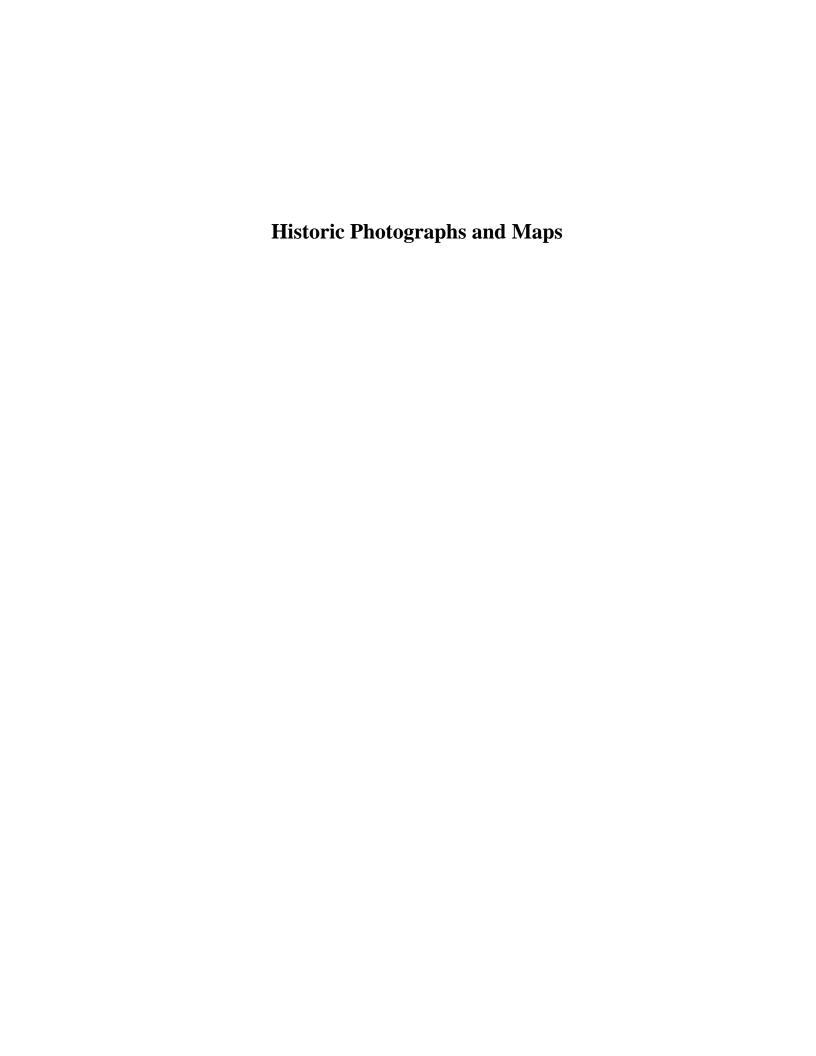
ADDRESS	S/B/L
400 Centre Street	72/001/0012
4 Elmwood Street	72/002/0005
22 Elmwood Street	72/002/0001
23 Elmwood Street	71/034/0008

# NEWTON LOCAL LANDMARK REPORT

William W. Jacques House

29-31 Elmwood Street

Prepared for: Newton Historical Commission October 2001



**DATE:** November 13, 2001

TO: Daniel Funk, City Solicitor

FROM: Lara Kritzer, Preservation Planner

CC: Michael Kruse, Director, Planning and Development

Juris Alksnitis, Associate Director of Planning and Development

**SUBJECT:** Landmark Designation – 29-31 Elmwood Street

At their regularly scheduled meeting and public hearing on November 8, 2001, the Newton Historical Commission unanimously voted to designate the property located at 29-31 Elmwood Street (Assessor's # 71-034-0009) as a local landmark under Newton City Ordinance T-288, Sections 22-90 through 22-103. In accordance with the ordinance, I am requesting that a legal description of the above-mentioned property be recorded with the Middlesex County recorder. The property is recorded in Land Court Book 28224 Page 506. The property appears to have changed hands in early October but the deed has not yet received a Book or Page number. A copy of the Commission's record of action is attached.

Thank you for your help in getting this matter resolved. Please let me know if any additional information is needed in order to record the property. Also, I would greatly appreciate it if you could send me a verification that it has been recorded so that I can add a note to my file.